

## FAST FACTS

HEADQUARTERS  
Washington, DC

ANNUAL BUDGET  
\$43 million

LANGUAGES  
9

AUDIENCE  
6.9 million

Since 1996, Radio Free Asia (RFA), a private nonprofit multimedia news corporation, has served as a surrogate broadcaster for indigenous free media to China (Mandarin, Cantonese, Tibetan, and Uyghur), Burma, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, and North Korea. Working in some of world's harshest media environments, RFA utilizes on-the-ground reporters, stringers, vast networks of cultivated in-country sources, and citizen journalists and eye-witnesses to provide leads, tips, images, and video — often at great personal risk — to report on news otherwise ignored.



IN 2018

**34** MILLION  
engaged users  
on Facebook

**123** MILLION  
views on YouTube

**112** MILLION  
website content views

RFA's award-winning news, information, multimedia content, and commentary concentrates on domestic events occurring in and/or affecting its broadcast countries. Through shortwave radio and online platforms, RFA works to counter false narratives and empower its listeners to better understand topics deemed sensitive by authoritarian governments. RFA also functions as a platform for free discussion of forbidden topics, a forum for citizen journalists, and a model on which others can shape their own emerging journalistic traditions. RFA does not express editorial opinions.

Respected news sources both in the region and worldwide often cite RFA's reporting including *The Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, BBC, CNN, Reuters, AFP, Kyodo News, Yonhap, and *South China Morning Post*, *Bangkok Post*, and *Straits Times*, among many others.

## LANGUAGES

Burmese  
Cantonese  
Khmer  
Korean  
Lao  
Mandarin  
Tibetan  
Uyghur  
Vietnamese

“[RFA] shows truths  
that other media may  
not dare to present.”

– Listener from Laos

## PROGRAMMING

RFA’s all-digital facility equip with 29 studios allows our nine services each produce news, analysis, commentary, and cultural programming nearly all in house. Today, RFA has expanded from its radio programs to include documentaries, in-depth web reports, graphics and e-books online as well as on social media. Since 2015, RFA has garnered over 12.8 million fans across Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter providing social media videos, call in shows and redistributing citizen journalist content.

## MISSION

RFA’s mission is to provide accurate and timely news and information to Asian countries whose governments prohibit access to a free press.

## IMPACT

*Exposing North Korea Sanctions and Overseas Labor.* RFA Korean repeatedly sheds light on North Korean tactics used to skirt U.N. sanctions. Throughout 2018, RFA’s reports of North Korea rerouting coal exports through Russia — later confirmed by South Korean officials — pressed the Russian government to investigate millions of dollars’ worth of ‘Russian’ coal. In 2016, RFA produced an investigative series detailing North Korean laborers sent to work in countries around the world. RFA tracked these workers to seven countries which led to the shuttering of medical clinics with dubious care in Tanzania.

*First Reporting on Xinjiang’s Surveillance State and Mass Incarcerations.* RFA Uyghur has been at the forefront of coverage of massive human rights violations in Xinjiang, where it is estimated that over one million Uyghurs have been detained since early 2017. RFA’s sources within Xinjiang provide a window into these repressive Chinese policies. Sadly, the work of documenting these issues has made the families of RFA Uyghur reporters targets for the Chinese state. Today, dozens of their family members remain behind bars.

*An Independent Source for Cambodia’s 2018 Election.* RFA’s Khmer Service provided unrivaled coverage of the 2018 Cambodian elections despite being forced out of the country in September 2017 amid a government crackdown on free media, including the subsequent detention of two RFA reporters. RFA provided three days of live election coverage, speaking to voters, a wide network of NGOs and analysts to monitor events on the ground of what was widely regarded as a sham vote which was particularly valuable as the government had excluded independent election monitors.

